



MINUTES OF THE BOARD OF SUPERVISORS  
COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES, STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Violet Varona-Lukens, Executive Officer  
Clerk of the Board of Supervisors  
383 Kenneth Hahn Hall of Administration  
Los Angeles, California 90012

Chief Administrative Officer

At its meeting held December 9, 2003, the Board took the following action:

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Supervisor Knabe made the following statement:

“The House of Representatives took action on November 21, 2003, to approve the passage of S. 877 by Senator Conrad R. Burns (R-Montana) titled ‘Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003.’ The bill, which passed by a lopsided bipartisan margin of 392-5, will set limits and penalties on the transmission of unsolicited e-mails.

“Congress found that the receipt of commercial e-mails may result in a cost to recipients who cannot refuse to accept such mail and who may incur cost for the storage of such mail, the time spent accessing, reviewing and discarding such mail, or both. There is a finite volume of mail that such providers, businesses and institutions can handle without further investment in infrastructure. Moreover, some unsolicited commercial e-mail contains material that many recipients consider vulgar or pornographic in nature.

“Congress also found that an increasing number of senders of unsolicited commercial e-mails purposely disguise the source of such mail so as to prevent recipients from responding quickly and easily and that the unsolicited commercial e-mails often includes misleading information in the message subject line in order to induce the recipients to review the messages.

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“This legislation establishes criminal penalties for unsolicited commercial e-mails containing fraudulent transmission information and provides other protections to make it unlawful to initiate the transmission of misleading information and material.”

Therefore, on motion of Supervisor Knabe, seconded by Supervisor Antonovich, unanimously carried, the Board took the following actions:

1. Went on record in support of S. 877 (Burns), "Controlling the Assault of Non-Solicited Pornography and Marketing Act of 2003," legislation which will set limits and penalties on the transmission of unsolicited e-mails;  
and
2. Instructed the Chief Administrative Officer to send a letter to President Bush urging early enactment of S. 877.

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Copies distributed:

Each Supervisor  
County Counsel

Letter sent to:

Senator Conrad Burns